

MICRO-ORGANISMS IN PYOSALPINX.

BOINET (*Mercredi Méd.*, 1894, No. 47) found streptococci in the pus from pyosalpinx, but demonstrated the fact that it was nevertheless sterile by injecting it into the peritoneal cavity in guinea-pigs, rats and rabbits. Though no reaction followed, characteristic cultures containing streptococci were obtained, which being injected into the cavity caused death from acute peritonitis. The writer infers that while pus containing these micro-organisms may remain in contact with the peritoneum without injury, in the course of a few hours they may attain marked virulence, provided that they find a favorable culture-medium such as a raw surface. Hence the practical deduction to drain in all such cases.

VAGINAL HYSTERECTOMY WITH CLAMPS.

LANDAU (*Centralblatt für Gynäkologie*, 1895, No. 27) reports 277 cases of hysterectomy in which clamps were employed, 112 for malignant disease with eight deaths, 54 for fibro-myomata with two deaths, and 109 for disease of the adnexa with a single fatal case. With the exception of one woman, who suffered from a fistula, the patients were entirely cured. The bladder was injured once, the ureter once, and the intestine five times.

The writer insists upon the necessity of thorough work. All diseased tissues should be removed; at the same time a conservative course should be followed wherever this is possible. He approves strongly of Dührssen's exploratory incision through the anterior vaginal fornix.

THE RELATION OF HÆMATEMESIS TO MENSTRUATION.

KUTTNER (*Berliner klin. Wochenschrift*, 1895, Nos. 7-9) notes that hemorrhages from the stomach are often periodical, bearing a close relation to menstruation, especially in cases of amenorrhœa, though they are not to be regarded as vicarious. In ulcer of the stomach menstruation may be suspended for a time, hence periodical hæmatemesis should awaken a suspicion that this condition may be present.

ŒDEMA OF THE BLADDER.

KOLISCHER (*Centralblatt für Gynäkologie*, 1895, No. 27) describes a peculiar form of œdema of the vesical mucosa observed through the cystoscope. It appears in the form of circumscribed blisters the size of a pea, the rest of the membrane being normal. In some cases the blebs are so large as to resemble vesicular moles. The symptoms in this condition are painful urination, tenesmus, and feeling of weight and pressure over the bladder.

This "bullous œdema" is regularly observed in connection with pelvic exudates adjacent to the bladder, especially when a pyosalpinx is adherent to that viscus. In cases of pelvic abscess in which this appearance was noted the œdema and vesical symptoms disappeared after the pus was evacuated. When a solid exudate was slowly absorbed the disappearance of the œdema was correspondingly tardy. It might readily be mistaken for malignant disease, from the symptoms as well as from the thickening of the

bladder wall noted on palpation, but it is to be regarded as essentially of inflammatory origin.

As regards local treatment, irrigation of the bladder seems only to increase the patients' sufferings. The trouble being secondary to inflammatory conditions outside of the viscus, the latter must be cured before the vesical symptoms are relieved.

CHRONIC FIBROUS PERITONITIS.

Under this condition, GOLDENBERG (*Deutsche med. Wochenschrift*, 1895, No. 2) includes two cases in which he had an opportunity to make careful post-mortem observations. The patients had ascites, cachexia and rapid emaciation, symptoms which, with the apparent presence of general thickening and nodulation of the peritoneum, might readily have been supposed to indicate malignant disease. The differential diagnosis is based upon the diffuse rather than circumscribed thickening, less resistance on palpation, less marked nodulation, and the clear rather than bloody ascitic fluid. Such patients usually succumb to exhaustion.

ADHESION OF THE APPENDIX TO THE PELVIC ORGANS.

CHOGNON (*Inaugural Thesis; Centralblatt für Gynäkologie*, 1895, No. 29) has collected statistics showing the frequency with which the appendix vermiformis is adherent to the pelvic organs. In twelve cases it was adherent to diseased adnexa, in twenty to ovarian tumors, once to a fibroid and once to an ectopic sac. The practical deduction is to examine the appendix in every celiotomy in which adhesions are separated, and if it is adherent and sustains even the slightest injury during the separation, to extirpate it in every instance.

COMBINED TUBERCULOSIS AND CARCINOMA OF THE UTERUS.

NASSUER (*Inaugural Diss.; Centralblatt für Gynäkologie*, 1895, No. 29) reports the case of a patient, aged forty-five years, whose uterus was removed for carcinoma of the cervix. An examination of the specimen showed that beside the malignant disease of the cervix, two reddish nodules the size of cherries projected above the normal corporeal endometrium. Microscopically these consisted of numerous irregular, dilated glands, the lumina of which were partly empty and partly filled with leucocytes. There were also many giant-cells and a few tubercle-bacilli.

STEAM AS A HÆMOSTATIC.

SNEGIREW (*Deutsche med. Wochenschrift*, 1894, No. 38) having employed steam in a series of experiments on animals in which portions of the liver, spleen, and kidneys were removed, and found that by this agent parenchymatous hemorrhage could effectually be controlled, applied the same hæmostatic in operations upon the human subject. In supra-vaginal amputation, myomectomy, etc., oozing was promptly checked on bringing steam in contact with the raw surface. After opening pelvic abscesses he fills the cavity with steam, which acts both as a deodorizer and promotes rapid granulation.